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Dear Regional and National Associations,

We are pleased to inform you of two developments for the ITF Seniors Tour in 2021, recently approved by the ITF Seniors Committee and ITF Board.

Currently, the ITF Seniors Circuit offers age groups at 5-year increments from 35 years and above to 85 years and above, which sees 27,500 players compete in over 500 tournaments.

As part of the ITF's mission to make Seniors Tennis the leading sport in terms of player participation, we want to ensure we are offering age appropriate competitive opportunities to maximise enjoyment and engagement.

Following independent research and feedback from national associations, advisory panels and players, the ITF will introduce two new age groups; 30 plus and 90 plus from January 2021.

30+ age category

Outside of the ITF World Tennis Tour, which provides competitive opportunities for the most elite players of this age group, there are fewer opportunities for players aged 30 and over to compete in an organised tournament circuit.

We believe there is a significant opportunity to increase participation on the ITF Seniors Tour by providing the large number of players of this age who play tennis to a high level, with the opportunity to enter and compete in age appropriate tournaments and to earn an ITF world ranking in their age group. The ITF Seniors Tour also provides players with many enriching benefits including the ability to travel to new places and to develop friendships and camaraderie.

The ITF Seniors Tour will introduce events in Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles, with a 30+ age category also added to the ITF Young Seniors World Individual Championships from 2021.

New event formats introduced to the ITF Seniors Tour in recent years are strongly recommended for younger age groups, including the new 30+ age category. This includes the use of short set singles matches, and the 10-point match tie-break in final sets of singles matches. These formats can allow for events to take place in shorter time periods by allowing players to compete in more than one singles match a day.

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We look forward to working with national associations to promote this new level of competition and introduce a new group of players to the circuit.

90+ age category

The number of active players aged 90 and over competing in ITF Seniors events continues to grow. This means it is now viable to introduce a new age category and we can encourage more players to play in ITF Seniors tournaments who may be currently discouraged by having to play in younger age categories.

The 90 years and over age category will be introduced in Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles, with a 90+ age category also added to the ITF Super Seniors World Individual Championships from 2021.

The following provides additional information relating to the introduction of both age groups:

- An ITF Seniors Ranking for Women's Singles, Men's Singles, Women's Doubles, Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles will be introduced in 2021 for these two new categories.
- Player registrations to the ITF Seniors Circuit for those aged 30 plus (born 1986-1991) through IPIN will be made available from October 2020.
- There is no upfront cost to register and obtain an IPIN membership. This allows players to join the ITF community, enter tournaments and compete on the ITF Seniors Tour.

The ITF look forward to working with you to help increase competitive participation in your nation in 2021 and beyond. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact seniors@itftennis.com

Yours sincerely,



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